


In the Claims

1. (currently amended): A solid of formula $\text{BiOI} \cdot (\text{BiOX})_j \cdot (\text{BiOL})_k$ wherein

X is Cl, Br, F or a mixture $(\text{Br})_m(\text{Cl})_n(\text{F})_o \times \frac{1}{m+n+o}$,

L is CN, NC, NCO, NCS, O-Z, S-Z or a mixture of different moieties selected from CN, NC, NCO, NCS, O-Z and ~~or~~ S-Z,

Z is COR_1 , COOR_1 , CONR_1R_2 , CN, CSR_1 , COSR_1 , CSOR_1 , SO_2R_1 , SO_3R_1 , , or $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{24}\text{aryl}$ or $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{24}\text{heteroaryl}$ each $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{24}\text{aryl}$ or $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{24}\text{heteroaryl}$ unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen, NO_2 , CN, NR_3R_4 , $\text{NR}_3\text{R}_4\text{R}_5^+$, NR_5COR_3 , $\text{NR}_5\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4$, R_3 , OR_3 , SR_3 , CHO, $\text{CR}_5\text{OR}_3\text{OR}_4$, COR_3 , SO_2R_3 , SO_3^- , SO_3R_3 , $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_3\text{R}_4$, COO^- , COOR_3 , CONR_3R_4 , PO_3^- , $\text{PO}(\text{OR}_3)(\text{OR}_4)$, $\text{SiR}_5\text{R}_6\text{R}_7$, $\text{OSiR}_5\text{R}_6\text{R}_7$ and ~~or~~ by $\text{SiOR}_5\text{OR}_6\text{OR}_7$;

j is a number from 0 to 4, ~~preferably from 0.5 to 1.2, and~~

k is a number from 0.005 to 3, ~~preferably from 0.05 to 2, especially from 0.1 to 1;~~

m, n and o are each a number from 0 to 10^6 , but m, n and o are not all simultaneously 0; ~~preferably, m is 10^6 and n and o are from 0 to 10^5 ; especially, n is from 0 to 10^4 and o is from 0 to 10^2 ;~~

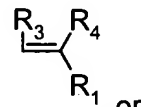
R_1 ~~is being~~ $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{24}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{24}\text{alkenyl}$, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{24}\text{alkynyl}$, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{24}\text{cycloalkyl}$, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{24}\text{cycloalkenyl}$ or $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{12}\text{heterocycloalkyl}$ each unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen, NO_2 , CN, NR_3R_4 , $\text{NR}_3\text{R}_4\text{R}_5^+$, NR_5COR_3 , $\text{NR}_5\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4$, OR_3 , SR_3 , OBiO , SBiO , COO^- , COOH , COOR_3 , CHO, $\text{CR}_5\text{OR}_3\text{OR}_4$, COR_3 , SO_2R_3 , SO_3^- , SO_3H , SO_3R_3 and/or by $\text{OSiR}_5\text{R}_6\text{R}_7$ or R_1 is being $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{24}\text{aryl}$, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}\text{aralkyl}$, $\text{C}_8\text{-C}_{24}\text{aralkenyl}$ or $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{24}\text{heteroaryl}$ each unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen, NO_2 , CN, NR_3R_4 , $\text{NR}_3\text{R}_4\text{R}_5^+$, NR_5COR_3 , $\text{NR}_5\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4$, R_3 , OR_3 , SR_3 , CHO, $\text{CR}_5\text{OR}_3\text{OR}_4$, COR_3 , SO_2R_3 , SO_3^- , SO_3R_3 , $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_3\text{R}_4$, COO^- , COOR_3 , CONR_3R_4 , PO_3^- , $\text{PO}(\text{OR}_3)(\text{OR}_4)$, $\text{SiR}_5\text{R}_6\text{R}_7$, $\text{OSiR}_5\text{R}_6\text{R}_7$ and/or by $\text{SiOR}_5\text{OR}_6\text{OR}_7$;

R_2 , independently of R_1 , ~~being~~ is hydrogen or R_1 , ~~it being possible, if desired, for~~ wherein R_1 and R_2 to may be linked to one another by means of a direct bond or a bridge $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$ or $-\text{NC}_1\text{-C}_8\text{alkyl}-$ so that altogether a five- or six-membered ring is formed;

R₃ and R₄ ~~being~~are each independently of the other hydrogen, CN, OR₅, COO⁻, COOH, COOR₅, CONR₅R₆, COR₅, SO₂R₅, SO₃⁻, SO₃H, SO₃R₅ or OSiR₅R₆R₇; or C₁-C₂₄alkyl, C₂-C₂₄alkenyl, C₂-C₂₄alkynyl, C₃-C₂₄cycloalkyl, C₃-C₂₄cycloalkenyl or C₂-C₁₂heterocycloalkyl each unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen, NO₂, CN, NR₅R₆, NR₅R₆R₇⁺, NR₅COR₇, NR₅CONR₆R₇, OR₅, SR₅, COO⁻, COOH, COOR₅, CHO, CR₅OR₆OR₇, COR₅, SO₂R₅, SO₃⁻, SO₃H, SO₃R₅ and/or by OSiR₅R₆R₇; or C₇-C₁₈aralkyl, C₆-C₁₄aryl or C₂-C₁₃heteroaryl each unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted by halogen, NO₂, CN, NR₅R₆, NR₅R₆R₇⁺, NR₅COR₆, NR₅CONR₆R₇, R₅, OR₅, SR₅, CHO, CR₅OR₆OR₇, COR₅, SO₂R₅, SO₃⁻, SO₂NR₅R₆, COO⁻, COOR₇, CONR₅R₆, PO₃⁻, PO(OR₅)(OR₆), SiR₅R₆R₇, OSiR₅R₆R₇ and/or by SiOR₅OR₆OR₇,

or NR₃R₄ ~~is being~~is a five- or six-membered heterocycle which may optionally contain a further nitrogen or oxygen atom and which may be mono- or poly-substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl; and

R₅, R₆ and R₇ ~~are being~~are each independently of the others hydrogen, C₁-C₂₀alkyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, C₂-C₂₀alkynyl, C₇-C₁₈aralkyl, C₆-C₁₄aryl or C₂-C₁₃heteroaryl, ~~it being possible, if desired, for wherein~~ R₅ and R₆ and/or R₆ and R₇ ~~to~~may be linked to one another by means of a direct bond or a bridge --O--, --S-- or --NC₁-C₈alkyl-- so that altogether a five- or six-membered ring is formed.



2. (currently amended): A solid according to claim 1, wherein Z is CN, COR₁, SO₃R₁, unsubstituted or substituted C₆-C₂₄aryl, ~~especially COR₄ or SO₃R₄~~; R₁ is unsubstituted or substituted C₃-C₂₄alkyl, C₃-C₂₄alkenyl, C₆-C₂₄aryl or C₈-C₂₄aralkenyl; R₃ and R₄ are each independently of the other hydrogen, CN, OR₅, COOR₅, CONR₅R₆ or COR₅, or unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₂₄alkyl, C₇-C₁₈aralkyl or C₆-C₁₄aryl; or NR₃R₄ is a five- or six-membered heterocycle which may optionally contain a further nitrogen or oxygen atom and which may be mono- or poly-substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl; R₅, R₆ and R₇ are each independently of the others hydrogen, C₁-C₂₀alkyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, C₂-C₂₀alkynyl or C₇-C₁₈aralkyl, ~~it being possible, if desired for wherein~~ R₅ and R₆ and/or R₆ and R₇ ~~to~~may be linked to one another by means of a direct bond or a bridge --O--, --S-- or --NC₁-C₈alkyl-- so that altogether a five- or six-membered ring is formed; and R₅, R₆ and R₇ themselves may, ~~if desired,~~ be substituted.

3. (original): A solid according to claim 2, wherein R_1 is C_6-C_{24} aryl or C_8-C_{24} aralkenyl each substituted by one, two or three radicals selected from the group consisting of OR_3 , NR_3R_4 and NO_2 .

4. (currently amended): A solid according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, which is mainly or exclusively in the crystal lattice of bismuth halide.

5. (currently amended): A solid according to claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~, wherein the sum $j+k$ is from 0.1 to 3, ~~preferably from 0.2 to 1.5~~ and the ratio $m:n$ is from 3:2 to 5:1.

6. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of a bismuth oxyhalide by combining I^- and, optionally, X^- with a solution of BiO^+ or Bi^{3+} ions in a solvent under conditions such that a solid which is insoluble in the solvent precipitates out, in which process L^- or LH is present in the solvent during precipitation of the solid, and the solid precipitating out is of formula $BiOI \cdot (BiOX)_j \cdot (BiOL)_k$, wherein j is a number from 0 to 4, ~~preferably from 0.5 to 1.2~~, and k is a number from 0.005 to 3, ~~preferably from 0.05 to 2, especially from 0.1 to 1~~.

7. (original): A process according to claim 6, wherein the precipitation is carried out at a pH of from 1 to 9.

8. (currently amended): Platelets having a length of from 2 μm to 5 mm, a width of from 2 μm to 2 mm and a thickness of from 50 nm to 1.5 μm , the ratio of length to height being at least 5:1, the ratio of width to height being at least 3:1, and the ratio of length to width being at most 5:1, which platelets are coated with a solid of formula $BiOI \cdot (BiOX)_j \cdot (BiOL)_k$, wherein j is a number from 0 to 4, ~~preferably from 0.5 to 1.2~~, and k is a number from 0.005 to 3, ~~preferably from 0.05 to 2, especially from 0.1 to 1~~.

9. (currently amended): Platelets according to claim 8, coated with from 1 to 1000 % by weight, ~~preferably from 5 to 500 % by weight, especially from 10 to 200 % by weight~~, based on the uncoated platelets, of solid of formula $BiOI \cdot (BiOX)_j \cdot (BiOL)_k$.

10. (currently amended): A process for the coating of particles with bismuth oxyhalide by combining I^- and, optionally, X^- with a solution of BiO^+ or Bi^{3+} ions in a solvent under conditions such that a solid which is insoluble in the solvent precipitates out, in which process L^- or LH is present in the solvent during precipitation of the solid, and the particles are coated with a solid of formula

$\text{BiOI} \cdot (\text{BiOX})_j \cdot (\text{BiOL})_k$, wherein j is a number from 0 to 4, ~~preferably from 0.5 to 1.2~~, and k is a number from 0.005 to 3, ~~preferably from 0.05 to 2, especially from 0.1 to 1.~~

11. (original): A process according to claim 10, wherein the particles are in suspension in the solvent during precipitation of the solid.

12. (original): A process according to claim 11, wherein the coating is carried out subsequently to preparation of the particles without intermediate isolation.

13. (currently amended): A substance composition comprising a solid according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4 or 5 or platelets according to claim 8 or 9~~ and also at least one further white, black, coloured or effect pigment.

14. (currently amended): A substance composition comprising a high molecular weight organic material and from 0.01 to 80 % by weight, ~~preferably from 0.1 to 30 % by weight~~, based on the high molecular weight organic material, of a solid according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4 or 5 or platelets according to claim 8 or 9.~~

15. (new): A solid according to claim 1, wherein j is a number from 0.5 to 1.2, and k is a number from 0.05 to 2.

16. (new): A solid according to claim 1, wherein n is from 0 to 10^4 and o is from 0 to 10^2 ;

17. (new): A process according to claim 6, wherein j is a number from 0.5 to 1.2 and k is a number from 0.05 to 2.

18. (new): platelets according to claim 8, wherein j is a number from 0.5 to 1.2, and k is a number from 0.05 to 2.

19. (new): A substance composition comprising platelets according to claim 8 and also at least one further white, black, coloured or effect pigment.

20. (new): A substance composition comprising a high molecular weight organic material and from 0.01 to 80 % by weight, based on the high molecular weight organic material, of platelets according to claim 8.